

Application No.: 10/672581

Case No.: 57135US004

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a flame retardant-containing plastic shipping or storage container or one or more shaped parts thereof comprising the steps:
[[d)] a) admixing a composition comprising
 - (1) one or more thermosetting resins and one or more curing agents therefore,
 - (2) a fully pre-polymerized uncrosslinked hydrocarbon polyolefin resin, and optionally a fully pre-polymerized uncrosslinked functionalized polyolefin, and[[e)] b) exposing said composition to curing conditions after forming the composition into a shipping or storage container or one or more shaped parts thereof,
wherein said polymeric composition comprises
1 to 49 parts by weight of said curable thermosetting resin, the parts by weight being based on the total composition, and
51 to 99 parts by weight of a combination of at least one of said fully prepolymerized uncrosslinked hydrocarbon polyolefin resin and said fully prepolymerized uncrosslinked functionalized polyolefin resin, the parts by weight being based on the total composition, wherein said hydrocarbon polyolefin is present in the range of 25 to 99 parts by weight of the total composition and said functionalized polyolefin is present in the range of 0 to 50 parts by weight of the total composition, and
wherein said plastic container composition contains a flame retardant, said flame retardant being selected from the group consisting of non-halogenated flame retardants.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 2 wherein said composition comprises a foamed structure.
4. (Currently amended) A method comprising the steps of

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a) providing a molten mixture comprising a curable epoxy resin, a curative for the curable epoxy resin, said curative being stable at temperature of mixing, and at least one of a fully prepolymerized uncrosslinked hydrocarbon polyolefin resin and optionally a fully prepolymerized uncrosslinked functionalized polyolefin resin, and wherein said molten mixture contains a flame retardant, said flame retardant being selected from the group consisting of non-halogenated flame retardants,

b) applying the mixture to a ~~substrate, mold, or storage vessel or processing into a free-standing film~~, and

c) at any subsequent time, activating the curative to produce a semi-interpenetrating polymer network,

wherein said application of said molten mixture to said mold is preceded by in-mold application of friction material .

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4 wherein said molten mixture further comprises one or more performance enhancement additives selected from the group consisting of antimicrobials, mildewcides, foaming agents, and fillers.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein said plastic container further comprises one or more of performance enhancement additives selected from the group consisting of antimicrobial additives, mildewcides, foaming agents, fillers, and friction material on at least one surface thereof.

8. (Currently amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A method according to claim 2 for producing a flame retardant-containing plastic shipping or storage container or one or more shaped parts thereof comprising the steps:

a) admixing a composition comprising

(1) one or more thermosetting resins and one or more curing agents therefore,

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(2) a fully pre-polymerized uncrosslinked hydrocarbon polyolefin resin, and optionally a fully pre-polymerized uncrosslinked functionalized polyolefin, and

b) exposing said composition to curing conditions after forming the composition into a shipping or storage container or one or more shaped parts thereof, said shaped parts subsequently being secured together to form said plastic shipping or storage container, wherein said plastic container composition contains a flame retardant, said flame retardant being selected from the group consisting of non-halogenated flame retardants, and wherein said plastic container further comprises one or more of radio frequency identification (RFID) tags.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 7 wherein said performance enhancement additives are present in the range of more than 0 and up to 70 parts by weight of the weight of the total composition.

11. (Currently amended) The method according to claim [[9]] 2 wherein said uncrosslinked prepolymerized polyolefin resin is selected from the group consisting of homopolymers, copolymers, blends with other polyolefins, blends with high impact polymers and blends with rubbers or elastomers.

12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein said plastic container is a pallet.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein said thermosetting resin is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, curable polyolefins, ethylene propylene rubber, ethylene butylene rubber, phenolics, polyurethanes, unsaturated polyesters, furan, allyls, vinyls, silicones, alkyds, nitrile rubber, and functionalized rubber.

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14. (Currently amended) The method according to claim [[9]] 2 wherein said thermosetting resin is an epoxy resin.
15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein polyolefin resin is selected from the group consisting of alpha-olefins, copolymers of said alpha-olefins, and functionalized polyolefins wherein the functionalized groups include one or more of O, N, S, and P atoms.
16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein said flame retardant is selected from the group consisting of ammonium phosphates, compounds containing phosphorus-nitrogen bonds, and cyclic phosphates.
17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[5]] 2 wherein said plastic container ~~further~~ comprises one or both of bubbles and glass beads as fillers.
18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein said flame retardant in said composition is present in the range of more than 0 and up to 70 parts by weight of the total weight of the polymeric composition.
19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 18 wherein said flame retardant in said composition is present in the range of more than zero and up to and including 25 parts by weight of the total polymeric composition.
20. (Currently amended) The method ~~cured composition~~ according to claim 2 ~~that comprises~~ wherein the resulting cured composition comprises an interpenetrating polymer network.
21. (New) The method according to claim 2 wherein said plastic container further comprises friction material on at least one surface thereof.
22. (New) The method according to claim 21 wherein said friction material adheres to said surface without the addition of an adhesive.

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23. (New) A method for producing a flame retardant-containing plastic pallet or one or more shaped parts thereof comprising the steps:

a) admixing a composition comprising

1) 1 to 49 parts by weight of one or more thermosetting resins and one or more curing agents therefore, the parts by weight being based on the total composition, and

2) 51 to 99 parts by weight of a combination of at least one of a fully pre-polymerized uncrosslinked hydrocarbon polyolefin resin and optionally a fully prepolymerized uncrosslinked functionalized polyolefin resin, the parts by weight being based on the total composition, wherein said hydrocarbon polyolefin is present in the range of 25 to 99 parts by weight of the total composition and said functionalized polyolefin is present in the range of 0 to 50 parts by weight of the total composition, and

b) exposing said composition to curing conditions after forming the composition into a plastic pallet or one or more shaped parts thereof,

wherein said plastic pallet or one or more shaped parts thereof contains a flame retardant, said flame retardant being selected from the group consisting of non-halogenated flame retardants.

24. (New) The method according to claim 2 further comprising the step of securing together said shaped parts to produce said flame retardant-containing plastic shipping or storage container.

25. (New) The method according to claim 23 further comprising the step of securing together said shaped parts to produce said flame retardant-containing plastic pallet.